



***A Strategic Spot
for Gathering
Information**

In this issue:

- ◆ Rough Times Ahead
- ◆ Star Patron
- ◆ Print-Braille Info.
- ◆ Donations
- ◆ Video Info.
- ◆ Magazine Info.
- ◆ Popular Books
- ◆ Lewis & Clark
- ◆ Important Dates
- ◆ Veterans' News
- ◆ Tips for Better Service
- ◆ Children's Page and more

The Listening Post *

Kentucky Talking Book Library

*Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
Serving Kentucky's Need to Know*

Number 35

Summer 2003

Rough Times Ahead for KTBL

As has been well documented in the media, the state of Kentucky is having serious financial problems. While some cuts have occurred without much notice, others have had definite impacts on some services.

In the last two years, KTBL has lost three staff members. Two due to intra-agency transfers and the third due to retirement. The first to leave was our Electronic Technician. This person performed two important duties. The first duty was to duplicate copies of magazines, such as Cat's Pause, Guideposts, Kentucky Game and Fish and Kentucky Monthly. The second duty was to duplicate copies of Kentucky books that have been recorded in the KTBL studios. A few of these duties, such as duplicating

the magazines, have been picked up by current staff members; however, the recorded books are not being duplicated at this time.

The other two employees worked in our Circulation area. These people were responsible for locating, mailing out books and checking in returned books on a daily basis. The staff in Circulation has gone from three full-time and one part-time worker to one full-time and one part-time worker. They are doing a wonderful job of keeping the books moving; however, some delays cannot be avoided. Your patience in this matter is appreciated.

We wish we could say that these positions will be filled in the future; however, we cannot. Decisions such as these are out of our hands. In the meantime, the remaining staff will do the best we can to provide you the best service possible.

Why I volunteer: "If I can contribute something positive to someone else's life, it makes me feel better about myself. So the truth is that I volunteer for me!" L.S.

A Star Patron



In past newsletters we have asked for interesting information from you to share with all of our patrons. In response to that request we received the following letter:

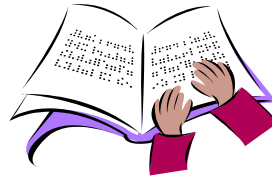
“My hobby is woodworking so I listen to the books while I’m assembling toys or other items. During the daytime I am generally running power tools and, of course, can’t listen to books as I have to concentrate on what I am doing. The basic part of my hobby is building toys for needy kids though I also have to create toys for 14 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. The toys are wheel type and are from 3 to 10 inches long and range from little cars to big ones, helicopters, air planes, telephones, cradles, motor cycles, etc. At Christmas time my wife and I deliver from six to seven hundred toys each year. I also do items for our church and it’s members, such as Lenten crosses so they have something on their table to remind them of the season—and for Advent I make Advent wreathes for every member of the church.

“One reason I enjoy the books so much is that when I was in industry I had to do a lot of technical reading and had no time for leisure reading. Now, in retirement, reading for pleasure has come to mean a great deal to me. Since I lost my sight in 1986 I have received three

awards for contributions I have made: the Jefferson Award in 1998, the Kentucky Department for the Blind Independence Achievement Award in 1996, and Kentucky Head Start Assoc. Humanitarian of the Year Award in 1990.

“Talking Books have added greatly to my ability to enjoy life and I shall continue to listen to them for what I hope will be a long time to come.”

Submitted by Mr. CEK, Cadiz, KY



New Print/Braille Books

Print/Braille, also known as Twin Vision books are picture books that have a Braille overlay so that both sighted and Braille readers can share the story. A sighted parent can read along with a blind child, or vice-versa. We have a large collection of these books from the National Library Service. The Kentucky Talking Book Library has recently purchased several Print/Braille books that are not available through NLS.

BRK 00031 Babar the King

BRK 00032 Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs

BRK 00033 Julius the Baby of the World

BRK 00034 Metropolitan Cow

BRK 00035 Snow

BRK 00036 Princess Smartypants

BRK 00037 Princess Purnella and the Purple Peanut

BRK 00038 The Day the Goose Got Loose

BRK 00039 If You Give a Pig a
Pancake

BRK 00040 Is There Room on the
Feather Bed?

BRK 00041 Pat the Bunny



DONATIONS



Since our last newsletter in the summer of 2002, we have received over \$2,100.00 in donations. Thanks to everyone for your generosity.

Louella B. Walker

William Feiler

Rodney, Lois, and Susan Miller

Anne P. Kirkpatrick

Elizabeth Wagner

Virginia L. Lutz

Elizabeth B. Johnson

Ewing Cantrill

Arthur & Rebecca Adams

Barbara D. Lesieur

Joseph S. Wile, St.

Dr. Kathi Kern

Mrs. Kate Black

George W. Jamison

Gifford S. & Marion G. Blyton

Howard & Rita Stump

Louise Heidorn

Eithel & Oneta Davis in memory of
Nola Huffman

Ronald & Abbie Naumann in memory
of Helen Naumann

Robert & Jo Barton in memory of
Helen Naumann

The donations we have received over the years have made a tremendous difference in our library service program. Some of our most recent purchases include videos for our Descriptive Video Collection and

more Print/Braille books for our younger readers.

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, 300 Coffee Tree Road, PO Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL. Donations are 100% tax deductible and appreciated by the patrons who use our service.

Descriptive Videos

We now have well over 250 videos in our collection and we have an updated catalog that contains all the latest additions. If you would like a new catalog, please contact Greta at 1-800-372-2968.

The newest additions are:

DV-00029 His Girl Friday

DV-00030 The Stars Look Down

DV-00031 The Hobbit

DV-00032 Shane

DV-00033 My Favorite Brunette

DV-00034 The Jackie Robinson Story

DV-00035 Dressed to Kill

DV-00036 Call of the Wild

DV-00037 BMX Bandits

DV-00038 Aladdin & His Magic Lamp

DV-70461 Nova: B-29 Frozen in Time

DV-70462 Nova: Lightning

DV-70637 Spider-Man

DV-70638 Scooby Doo

DV-70639 Insomnia

DV-70640 Divine Secrets of the Ya-
Ya Sisterhood

DV-70641 Bridget Jones' Diary

DV-70642 Lilo & Stitch

DV-70643 Signs

Coming Soon:

Fire Over England (1937 Drama)
Gulliver's Travels (1939 Fantasy)
Love Laughs at Andy Hardy (1947
Comedy)
Ride to Glory (1971 Western)

This video collection is funded entirely by your donations. Please take extra precautions with the videos as we only have one copy of each movie. Please remember to rewind the movie and that the loan time for descriptive videos is *two weeks*.

and introducing...

Audio Movies

Movies on cassette? How can that be? The movie's soundtrack is combined with a special narration of the movie's visual action. Together sound and story create a uniquely engaging experience in the mind's eye and ear. No television or VCR is needed; however, use of a KTBL cassette player is required. Give one of these movies a try:

DVA-00001 Daniel Boone, Trail Blazer
DVA-00002 Topper Returns

Magazine Information

NLS will offer a cassette version of Horticulture magazine beginning with the March-April, 2003 issue. The magazine has been selected as a replacement for New Choices magazine which ceased publication last year. Flower and Garden, originally selected to replace New Choices, has also discontinued publication, so readers should disregard the announcements of its

selection in Talking Book Topics and Braille Book Review, March-April, 2003.

Choice magazine will no longer be distributed through our library. To order a subscription see Part 2 of the NLS Magazine catalog.

Effective immediately, all new requests for Kentucky circulating magazines will be placed on a waiting list. When a vacancy on the magazine mailing list becomes available, the patron's name at the top of the waiting list will then be moved to the mailing list. The circulated magazines include Cats Pause, Guideposts, Country Music Magazine, Kentucky Monthly, Kentucky Game & Fish, and Kentucky Afield. This change in procedure was deemed necessary in order to keep all Kentucky magazines circulating given our limited staff.

If you have any questions regarding magazines, please feel free to call Paula at 1-800-372-2968.

Most Popular Books

Ever wonder which books are requested more than others? Well, we have compiled a list of KTBL's most popular books. Call your librarian if you are interested in any of these books.



MOST POPULAR BOOKS (most requested)

1. RC 51331 A Painted House by John Grisham

2. RC 53285 The Summons by John Grisham
3. RC 51892 Lone Eagle by Danielle Steel
4. RC 52929 Skippping Christmas by John Grisham
5. RC 52282 Leap of Faith by Danielle Steel

MOST POPULAR KY BOOKS

1. KY 2285 Holly Days Café and Other Christmas Stories by Gerald R. Toner
2. KY 2303 Delia Webster and the Underground Railroad by Randolph Paul Runyon
3. KY 2288 Gone Are the Days by Nora Buttram
4. KY 2309 Remember the Alibi by Elizabeth Daniels Squire
5. KY 2164 Forty Acres and No Mule by Janice Holt Giles



Lewis & Clark

Two hundred years ago Thomas Jefferson won approval from Congress for \$2,500 to fund a small expeditionary group he called the Corps of Discovery. It was led by Jefferson's secretary, Meriwether Lewis and his friend, Kentuckian William Clark. The group of 33 included York, Clark's slave; Sacagawea, the young Shoshone wife of one of the interpreters; her infant son nicknamed "Pompy"; and Seaman, "a dog of the Newfoundland breed".

Over the next four years the Corps of Discovery traveled thousands of miles, experiencing new lands, rivers, plants, animals and peoples that they had never seen before. To read more about America's greatest adventure, check out some of these books:

RC 16492 Lewis and Clark: the Great Adventure by Donald Barr Chidsey

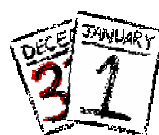
RC 29680 The Way to the Western Sea: Lewis and Clark Across the Continent by David Sievert Lavender

RC 31118 The Journals of Lewis and Clark by Meriwether Lewis

RC 43291 Undaunted Courage by Stephen E. Ambrose

RC 29633 The Incredible Journey of Lewis and Clark by Rhoda Blumberg (middle and high school level)

There may already be waiting lists for these books. If you are interested, call your librarian.



Dates to Remember

The Talking Book Library will be closed on the following days:

July 4: Independence Day

September 1: Labor Day

November 11: Veteran's Day

November 27 & 28: Thanksgiving

December 9: Governor's Inauguration Day

December 24 & 25: Christmas

January 1 & 2, 2004: New Year

The Talking Book Library closes for about an hour and a half once a

month for a staff meeting. If you call at that time, you will get a recorded message. Please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

English/Spanish Titles

The National Library Service has long been recording selected titles in Spanish. But recently they have begun producing certain books in both Spanish and English and combining them in the same case. In most cases, one tape is the English version; the other is the Spanish version. If you receive a book that you cannot understand because it seems to be in Spanish, be sure to listen to the other tape to see if it is in English.

News for our Veterans

Visual Impairment Services Team (VIST) Program VA Medical Center, Lexington

The mission of the Visual Impairment Services Team (VIST) Program at the Lexington VA Medical Center is to coordinate a healthcare service delivery system that provides a continuum of care for blind veterans extending from their home environment to the Lexington VA facility and to the appropriate rehabilitation setting. These skill areas include orientation and mobility, communication skills, activities of daily living, manual skills, visual skills, computer access training and social recreational activities.

Freda B. Shipman, MSW, LCSW is the coordinator of the Lexington VAMC program. It is her responsibility to identify the legally blind veterans throughout the state of Kentucky and make referrals to community and VA programs and help veterans and families adjust to and manage the loss of their sight, resolve problems, provide professional counseling, arrange annual health care reviews and conduct educational programs related to blindness. Services offered by the VIST program are available to both service connected and non-service connected veterans who are legally blind. VIST Services include annual physical examinations (including X-ray and EKG), optometry and audiological evaluations, prosthetic and sensory aides reviews, veterans' benefits review, and psychosocial assessments.

Any veteran who is legally blind and eligible for VA health care can participate in the VIST program. If you would like more information, write or call:

Freda B. Shipman, MSW, LCSW
VIST Coordination (114E-LD)
VA Medical Center
1101 Veterans Drive
Lexington, KY 40502-2236
(859) 281-3916
Freda.Shipman3@med.va.gov

Veterans History Project

There are 19 million war veterans living in the United States today, but every day we lose 1,500 of

them. Motivated by a desire to honor our nation's war veterans for their service and to collect their stories and experiences while they are still among us, the United States Congress created the Veterans History Project. The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress has been called upon to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories, along with documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and home movies, of America's war veterans and those who served in support of them.

The Veterans History Project covers World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf Wars. It includes all participants in those wars—men and women, civilian and military. For more information check out their website at: www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/

Community Roots

Community Roots celebrates the richness of America through local festivals, community events, and other grassroots activities. For this presentation, one representative event has been selected by each US state, territory or commonwealth, in order to highlight the many ways that Americans come together and celebrate their communities, heritage, and country. Some of Kentucky's local festivals include:

Corydon Happy Days Festival
Jefferson Davis Days
Hartford Oktoberfest
Friends of Lake Cumberland

Trail of Tears Pow Wow
Fancy Farm Picnic
Kentucky Derby Festival
County Court Days (Mt Sterling)

For more information, see the Library of Congress website at:
<http://www.loc.gov/folklife/roots/>



Tape Ministries NW A Lending Library for the Blind & Disabled

Tape Ministries NW has more than 900 Christian-oriented books and other reading materials on cassette to lend to the blind and visually impaired. All of the Library's lending is done by mail, free of charge. Book titles are available from such categories as: Fiction, Biographies, Autobiographies, Missionary stories, etc. For more information and to request a large-print or taped listing of the Library's selections contact them at:

Tape Ministries NW
122 SW 150th Street
Burien, WA 98166
1-206-243-7377
e-mail tmnw@tapeministries.org.

Getting to Know Us

Do you know someone who could benefit from Talking Books? If so, Paula and Nancy are available to talk to Senior Citizens groups or Community Outreach programs in your area. If your group would like a presentation from the Talking Book Library, call Paula or Nancy at 1-800-372-2968 to set up a time and place.

Support Talking Books

While talking to us on the telephone, most of you mention how much you enjoy Talking Books. We love hearing that you appreciate what we do. However, in these times of severe budget cuts funding is tight and competition for existing funds is tough. Some of our money comes in the form of grants, for which we have to show that the money was well spent. It is one thing for us to say how much you enjoy our service, but it cannot compare with your own heartfelt words.

If you would like to show support for the Talking Book Library, why not write us a short note explaining what Talking Books mean to you? We can use these testimonials to justify our funding so we can continue to provide the kind of service you have come to expect.

Volunteer Information

In honor of National Volunteer Week (April 28th—May 3rd) each of KTBL's volunteers were given a Spoon Bread Baker. These trademark dishes were produced at the Tater Knob Pottery & Farm by potters Jeff Enge and Sarah Culbreth. As an added treat, each dish was filled with sweet goodies made by KTBL staff members, Nancy Wilson and Paula Ernsperger. This is just a small way to give a big thanks to the volunteers for the time they give during the year.

Listed below are the volunteers who give anywhere from half an hour to two hours a week to record your

Kentucky books. They also record Kentucky Tourism information, Kentucky employee's insurance information and this newsletter.

Priscilla Barnes	Joyce Honaker
Russ Hatter	Joe Johnson
Mimi Lewis	Dave Morgan
Dwight Newton	John Schaaf
Lynda Sherrard	Barbara Smith
Roger Stapleton	Bill Van Arsdall
Jean Anne Webb	Ann Zimmer

Tips for Better Service

- If you have a problem with any of our equipment, call us at 1-800-372-2968 before you return it for repair. If you do return a piece of our equipment for repair, please put a note inside the box with your name, address, phone number, and a brief description of the problem you are having.
- We need to know the grade level for all our younger readers. Please call us whenever there is change in your child's reading level.
- Please keep all food and drink away from your cassette player. Dirt and liquid can damage the electronic components inside cassette players. Use an all-purpose cleaner and a soft cloth to clean the outside of your player.
- If a tape is damaged, place a rubber band around the damaged cassette and put an "X" on the mail card. Do not put string or rubber bands around the plastic mailing containers the tapes come

in—they get caught in postal equipment.

- Call us at 1-800-372-2968 when you are temporarily suspending or canceling your service; if you have a change of address or phone number; when you get too many books or not enough; if you don't receive requested titles; or if you need to start, change or stop magazine subscriptions.
- When you call the Library and are connected to voice mail, leave a complete message. Please speak slowly and include your name (spelling last name) and phone number. Please do not leave lengthy request lists on the voice mail. We will return your call as soon as possible.
- Please be sure to rewind all tapes before you return a book. We do not have the staff to check every book to make sure they are

rewound properly, so we must depend on you for help.

- As you finish reading a book, please return it. By doing this you will ensure that books are on the way to you promptly and you will not find yourself without books.
- Please make sure your name and address are on ALL correspondence. This is especially important for request lists, particularly Braille requests. We hate to throw away a list because we don't know who it's from.

REMEMBER

Refusal to accept any library-related mail will result in the interruption of your regular library service. Refused mail results in automatic suspension from our mailing lists.

Why I volunteer: "I became a volunteer for KTBL because I saw how much it helped my father. He had a stroke and was unable to read to himself, and I saw him enjoy talking books for thirteen years. I honestly believe the library program prolonged his life. I promised myself that if I could contribute to the program, I would, and I signed up not long after I began working in Frankfort. B.V.

Why I volunteer: "I enjoy books, so making them available to those who can't read them is a nice way of giving something to others." B.S.

Why I volunteer: "It's a great opportunity to combine my love of reading and doing some good for the community." R.H.

NOW CONTACT US BY E-MAIL

KTBL is now accessible by e-mail. You can use e-mail for any reason, just as you would call us on the telephone or write to us. Use it to order books, to tell us about book supply or other service problems, cancellation of service, machine difficulties, or a change of address. E-mail is fast, so we can be aware of your needs right away.

Please note the new e-mail addresses. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

The KTBL Staff can be reached at:

Richard Feindel, Branch Manager, Talking Book Library, ext. 285
Richard.Feindel@ky.gov

Nancy Wilson, Program Coordinator, Volunteer Program, ext. 284
Nancy.Wilson@ky.gov

Lee Logan, Secretary, General Information, ext. 276
Lee.Logan@ky.gov

Caroline Barnett, Circulation, ext. 215
Caroline.Barnett@ky.gov

Larry Estep, Machine Repair, ext. 286
Larry.Estep@ky.gov

Paula Ernspiker, Magazine Clerk, ext. 275
Paula.Ernspiker@ky.gov

Wendy Hatfield, Librarian, ext. 283
Wendy.Hatfield@ky.gov

Chris Payne, Librarian, ext. 278
Christine.Payne@ky.gov

Barbara Penegor, Librarian, ext. 282
Barbara.Penegor@ky.gov

Greta Wise, Video Clerk, ext. 279
Greta.Wise@ky.gov

***PLEASE KEEP THIS LIST
BY YOUR PHONE***

Kid's Page

Summer Reading

Learn About the Lewis & Clark Expedition

In 1804, Lewis and Clark with their Corps of Discovery embarked on a 7,000+ mile expedition to the Pacific Ocean and back. Their work helped to define our country as we know it today.

See your local Public Library to find out exactly what you have to do to participate in the program. Then call your librarian here to see what books we can supply. Parents (and grandparents, aunts and uncles) can work along with the kids on this summer reading program.

Reading Expedition

Start your expedition by reading different types of books. Below are some you might try. When you have completed the list, contact your local library.

1. True Story_____
2. Tall Tale_____
3. Animal Book_____
4. Funny Story_____
5. Magazine_____
6. Audiobook_____
7. Book & Movie_____
8. Adventure_____

Did you know...?

The Lewis and Clark expedition would cost \$120,000,000 if they left today?



Get to Know Sacagawea

Sacagawea was a young woman who traveled with her husband and son on the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Check with your librarian for books on her life.

Animal Alphabet (game for two or more)

Instructions:

Have everyone sit in a circle, pick one person to go first. That person will say the name of an animal that starts with "A" (antelope). The next person will then say the name of an animal that begins with "B". Continue around the circle until the entire alphabet has been done. (You might want to skip "X".) Variation: For older kids, you may want to add a name or location to the animal, beginning with the same letter (ex: My name is Bob. I'm a Bear and I live in Bermuda).

